

OES-Director

From: c_zittle@hotmail.com%inter2 [c_zittle@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 4:04 PM
To: amsdairycomments -AMSE2K; Johanns, Mike
Subject: Christian Zittle - Milk in the Pacific Northwest and Arizona-Las Vegas marketing areas: Docket No. AO-368-A32; AO-271-A37; DA-03-04B

Dear USDA:

I am writing in OPPOSITION to the proposed regulation of producer-handlers.

I am very troubled that USDA would enact rules that increase the price of milk to the consumer and that limit competition in the marketplace.

I urge USDA to reconsider its recommendation and to act in way the respects both consumers and the investment of time and money that producer-handlers have put into their family businesses.

Milk is an inelastic product in my family. Recently I have noticed how when all other farm products have lower their prices, milk has instead raised its prices. Even when these increases in price have been moderated, these increases have been significant when compare with other prices paid for alternative products. I honestly believed that your current course of action would only make this price gap bigger, by fomenting a market that will have no chance to reach its equilibrium, because you will attack the small companies that make it possible for the larger corporations to have some competition in the market. Thank you for your time, and please attempt to understand my position.

Sincerely,
Christian Zittle
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